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Dated: February 8, 2006

Signature:

Joyce Krumpe
(Joyce A. Krumpe)

Docket No.: 209529-81571
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Steven Shepard

Application No.: 09/453,319

Confirmation No.: 2455

Filed: December 2, 1999

Art Unit: 2859

For: Method and Apparatus for Detecting Kissing
Unbond Defects

Examiner: G. K. Verbitsky

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In view of the Final Office Action dated August 10, 2005 and Applicant's Notice of Appeal filed on November 8, 2005, prior to examining the above-referenced application on its merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begin on page 4 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 10 of this paper.